POETRY

FOUNDED IN 1912 BY HARRIET MONROE

VOLUME CLXXIII • OCTOBER 1998 THROUGH MARCH 1999

POETRY

EDITED *by* JOSEPH PARISI

Senior Editor STEPHEN YOUNG

Business and Projects Manager HELEN LOTHROP KLAVITER

Assistant Editor DAMIAN ROGERS

Editorial Assistant AARON FAGAN

60 West Walton Street • Chicago, Illinois 60610

CONTENTS OF VOLUME 173

CONTRIBUTORS OF VERSE

David Alpaugh / 164
Scene from the Book of the Dead

Sarah Arvio / 226
Swimming
Wonder
The Centuries

Ingeborg Bachmann / 10
Keine Delikatessen/No Delicacies
(Tr. by Margitt Lehbert)

Jack Barrack / 219
A View From the Woods

Jürgen Becker / 39
Chronik/Chronicle
What One Can
Oderbruch
In Memory of Donald Barthelme
(Tr. by Rita Dove & Fred Viebahn)

Ulrich J. Beil / 88
Fremdwörter/Foreign Words
From *The Crux of the Matter*
(Tr. by Margitt Lehbert)

Gottfried Benn / 2
Teils-teils/Half This, Half That
(Tr. by Rita Dove & Fred Viebahn)

Carole Bernstein / 348
The Visit

DC Berry / 285
Stopping at the Cemetery on Valentine's Day
Snowcone

Marcel Beyer / 116
Leni, tiernah/Leni, Animal Close
Only Two Suitcases
Jihad Sounds of Home
Approaching Blue
Dark Eyes
(Tr. by Margitt Lehbert)

Mark Bibbins / 306
And You Thought You Were the Only One

Randy Blasing / 298
Beside the Holy City's Sacred Pool

Robert Bly / 213
In Bowling Green, Kentucky

Don Bogen / 223
Three Variations on Elegiac Themes

Volker Braun / 51
O Chicago! O Widerspruch!/O Chicago! O Dialectic!
Das Theater der Toten/The Theater of the Dead
Das Eigentum/Property
(Tr. by Michael Hofmann)

Bertolt Brecht / 6
Das Gewächshaus/The Greenhouse
(Tr. by Ursula Runde)

Rolf-Dieter Brinkmann / 14
Sommer (Aus dem Amerikanischen)/Summer (From the American English)
(Tr. by Margitt Lehbert)

Deborah Burnham / 334
The Notebooks of Anna Magdalena Bach
Abishag the Shunammite

Roger Caldwell / 336
François Couperin at Versailles
Die Neue Musik

Nancy Naomi Carlson / 347
What Cannot Be Held

Neil Carpathios / 307
The Kiss

Hayden Carruth / 239
The Afterlife: Letter to Sam Hamill
The Afterlife: Letter to Sam Hamill II

Turner Cassity / 161
Manual vs. White Collar

Richard Cecil / 149
A Saint's Life

Paul Celan / 8
Ars Poetica 62/Ars Poetica 62
(Tr. by Rita Dove & Fred Viebahn)

Elizabeth Biller Chapman / 354
Liking Men, Mistress Quickly

Zehra Çirac / 100
Doppelte Nationalitätsmoral/Dual Nationality: A Moral Tale
Istanbul/Istanbul
(Tr. by Oliver Pauley)

William Coleman / 341
Reading the Greeks Under a Blanket of Blue

Billy Collins / 165
November

_____ / 207
Study in Orange and White

_____ / 273
Jealousy
Sonnet

Stephen Dobyns / 220
His Favorite Blue Cup
Why Fool Around?

Garrett Doherty / 234
Monogram
Henri Bergson's An Introduction to Metaphysics
Soul Nocturne

Rita Dove (Tr. with Fred Viebahn) / 2
One poem by Gottfried Benn

_____ (Tr. with Fred Viebahn) / 8
One poem by Paul Celan

_____ (Tr. with Fred Viebahn) / 30
Three poems by Hans Magnus Enzensberger

_____ (Tr. with Fred Viebahn) / 39
Four poems by Jürgen Becker

_____ (Tr. with Fred Viebahn) / 42
Three poems by Sarah Kirsch

_____ (Tr. with Fred Viebahn) / 84
Three poems by Kurt Drawert

Kurt Drawert / 84
Kaspar Hauser/Kaspar Hauser
In This Situation
The Last Picture
(Tr. by Rita Dove & Fred Viebahn)

Anne Duden / 57
Mouth Shut
(Tr. by Andrew Shields)

Stephen Dunn / 271
Old Dogs

Hans Magnus Enzensberger / 30
Die Verschwundenen/The Vanished
Asphodelen/Asphodels
Thoughts on the Run I-V
(Tr. by Rita Dove & Fred Viebahn)

Rhina P. Espaillat / 275
"Find Work"

Gerhard Falkner / 74
Menues hinter Windows mit Blumen/Menus Behind Windows with Flowers
klage um bernhard/lament for bernhard
The Birthmark
naked lunch
(Tr. by Peter Filkins)

Peter Filkins (Tr.) / 24
One poem by Oskar Pastior

_____ (Tr.) / 74
Four poems by Gerhard Falkner

_____ (Tr.) / 92
Four poems by Thomas Kling

_____ (Tr.) / 112
Three poems by Raoul Schrott

Allison Funk / 339
Mount Joy

Robert Gernhardt / 46
Ach/Last Call
Ballad of Depicting the Light
So Much and So Many
Guarding My Body
(Tr. by Ursula Runde)

Elton Glaser / 151
Here and Hereafter

Linda Gregerson / 162
Noah's Wife

Durs Grünbein / 104
Biologischer Walzer/Biological Waltz
The Ear in the Clock
Casta Diva
To a Chimpanzee in the London Zoo
O Homeland, Cynical Euphone
(Tr. by Andrew Shields)

James Harms / 231
Sleek for the Long Flight

Michael Hofmann (Tr.) / 51
Three poems by Volker Braun

_____ (Tr.) / 70
Four poems by Thomas Rosenlöcher

Elizabeth Holmes / 349
Sonogram
Early Labor
Second Birth

Joseph Hutchison / 305
Sundown

Fleda Brown Jackson / 292
Elvis Reads "The Wild Swans at Coole"

Ernst Jandl / 20
kommentar/comment
ende der schmach/end of infamy
schweizer armeemesser/swiss army knife
(Tr. by Margitt Lehbert)

Allan Johnston / 342
Evening Conversation

Rodney Jones / 158
Refusing To Baptize a Son
Elegy for a Bad Example

_____ / 289
Central London Time
The Package

Adel Karasholi / 44
Das Seil/The Rope
Die Brücke/The Bridge
(Tr. by Oliver Pauley)

Sarah Kirsch / 42
Wiepersdorf/Wiepersdorf
Winter Music
Free Verses
(Tr. by Rita Dove & Fred Viebahn)

Thomas Kling / 92
serner, karlsbad/serner, karlsbad
Stratum I (Petrarch)
Stratum II (Double-headed Hermes)
Stratum III (Beatrice)
(Tr. by Peter Filkins)

Barbara Köhler / 96
Ingeborg Bachmann stirbt in Rom/Ingeborg Bachmann Dies in Rome
In the Movies
Salutation Two: Diotima to Bellarmin
(Tr. by Andrew Shields)

Michael Krüger / 62
Vla-di-mir Na-bo-kov/Vla-di-mir Na-bo-kov
Venetian Poetics
Poet's Missive
(Tr. by Ursula Runde)

Gregor Laschen / 54
Die Poetik der Steine/The Poetics of Stones
The Text of the Bird
(Tr. by Andrew Shields)

Margitt Lehbert (Tr.) / 10
One poem by Ingeborg Bachmann

_____ (Tr.) / 14
One poem by Rolf-Dieter Brinkmann

_____ (Tr.) / 16
Three poems by Friederike Mayröcker

_____ (Tr.) / 20
Three poems by Ernst Jandl

_____ (Tr.) / 27
Two poems by Heiner Müller

_____ (Tr.) / 88
Two poems by Ulrich J. Beil

_____ (Tr.) / 116
Five poems by Marcel Beyer

Philip Levine / 277
The Evening Turned Its Back Upon Her Voice
Cesare

David Lunde / 355
Rage for Order
Cicadas

Joanie V. Mackowski / 232
Iceberg Lettuce
Wild

Friederike Mayröcker / 16
Todes Auffassung/Conception of Death
the obsessed age
Nausea
(Tr. by Margitt Lehbert)

James McCorkle / 218
Turning

W. S. Merwin / 344
Far Company

POETRY

Robert Morgan / 345
History's Madrigal
Mountain Dulcimer

Heiner Müller / 27
[Leichter Regen auf leichtem Staub]/[Light rain on light dust]
Herz der Finsternis nach Joseph Conrad/Heart of Darkness Adapted from Joseph Conrad
(Tr. by Margitt Lehbert)

Pablo Neruda / 269
A Dog Has Died
(Tr. by Alfred Yankauer)

Jean Nordhaus / 291
Posthumous

Brigitte Oleschinski / 82
Angefrorener Tang/Frozen Seaweed
Nobody Here
Out of the Night Talked Dry
(Tr. by Andrew Shields)

José F. A. Oliver / 102
heimkehr, traueratem/homecoming, sigh
wassersprache/waterlanguage
(Tr. by Oliver Pauley)

Dixie Partridge / 217
Winter Woods Without Snow

Linda Pastan / 179
If I Had To Live My Life Again

Oskar Pastior / 24
fliegen eintag polyglott
An Interview
(Tr. by Peter Filkins)

Oliver Pauley (Tr.) / 44
Two poems by Adel Karasholi

_____ (Tr.) / 100
Two poems by Zehra Çirac

_____ (Tr.) / 102
Two poems by José F. A. Oliver

F. D. Reeve / 171
Problems
Pistol Star

Jennifer Richter / 351
Annunciation

Jack R. Ridl / 230
Against Elegies

Liz Rosenberg / 353
The Offspring

Thomas Rosenlöcher / 70
Die Blütenfestung/The Flower Fortress
Minus/Subtraction
The Neon Icon
The Silent Depths
(Tr. by Michael Hofmann)

Paul Ruffin / 288
We Write Nasty Notes at the Academic Conference

Ursula Runde (Tr.) / 6
One poem by Bertolt Brecht

_____ (Tr.) / 46
Four poems by Robert Gernhardt

_____ (Tr.) / 62
Three poems by Michael Krüger

Mary Jo Salter / 279
Au Pair
Home Movies: A Sort of Ode

Joachim Sartorius / 66
Gräber/Graves
Poetics
(Tr. by Andrew Shields)

Raoul Schrott / 112
Physikalische Optik I/Physical Perception I
hotel vesuvius
hotel continental
(Tr. by Peter Filkins)

Grace Schulman / 304
Psalm for an Anniversary

Philip Schultz / 167
The Dark Between
The Holy Worm of Praise

Henry M. Seiden / 210
Men Say Brown
From an Analyst's Notebook

Alan Shapiro / 154
Natural Selection

Angela Shaw / 293
The Closer You Get

Andrew Shields (Tr.) / 54
Two poems by Gregor Laschen

_____ (Tr.) / 57
One poem by Anne Duden

_____ (Tr.) / 66
Two poems by Joachim Sartorius

_____ (Tr.) / 79
Three poems by Ernest Wichner

_____ (Tr.) / 82
Three poems by Brigitte Oleschinski

_____ (Tr.) / 96
Three poems by Barbara Köhler

_____ (Tr.) / 104
Five poems by Durs Grünbein

_____ / 338
Flügelhorn
Schism

Barry Silesky / 333
Music Lesson

Ralph Sneeden / 237
Continuing Demands
Your Friends Have Gone to Florida

Gary Soto / 160
Late Confession

_____ / 299
Chit-Chat With the Junior League Women

A. E. Stallings / 209
Study in White

_____ / 301
Dead Language Lesson

Maura Stanton / 147
A Night in Assisi

Hugh Steinberg / 302
Tell Us, What Is It Like?

Stephen Stepanchev / 166
In Flushing Cemetery

Jack Stewart / 156
Bible Studies

Dabney Stuart / 214
Gradual
Time

James Sutherland-Smith / 172
A Snail in Istanbul

Brian Swann / 155
Egg

Jennifer Tonge / 295
Peach

Fred Viebahn (Tr. with Rita Dove) / 2
One poem by Gottfried Benn

_____ (Tr. with Rita Dove) / 8
One poem by Paul Celan

_____ (Tr. with Rita Dove) / 30
Three poems by Hans Magnus Enzensberger

_____ (Tr. with Rita Dove) / 39
Four poems by Jürgen Becker

_____ (Tr. with Rita Dove) / 42
Three poems by Sarah Kirsch

_____ (Tr. with Rita Dove) / 84
Three poems by Kurt Drawert

Sidney Wade / 174
History Lessons

David Wagoner / 331
The Words-and-Music Men

Derek Walcott / 145
Becune Point

BJ Ward / 276
The Star-Ledger

Miles G. Watson / 222
Hiking with Aaron Past Sugar Hollow Reservoir

Ernest Wichner / 79
[Das Fenster Zu]/[The Window Closed]
Once More Kaspar Hauser
Maggots
(Tr. by Andrew Shields)

Robley Wilson / 283
Old Movies
On Self-Improvement
An Epitaph for Lovers

Alfred Yankauer (Tr.) / 269
One poem by Pablo Neruda

CONTRIBUTORS OF PROSE

F. D. Reeve / 357
The Size of It
The Origins of Evening, by Robert Gibb
On Love, by Edward Hirsch
Brilliant Windows, by Larry Kramer
Fuel, by Naomi Shihab Nye
The Trouble-Making Finch, by Len Roberts
And Still Birds Sing: New and Collected Poems, by Lucien Stryk

Melanie Richter-Bernburg (Tr.) / 121
Essay by Joachim Sartorius

Joachim Sartorius / 121
"Language, Foreign: Saying You and Being Heard": On Poetry in German, 1986-1996
(Tr. by Melanie Richter-Bernburg)

Michael Scharf / 317
Short Reviews
Asleep in the Garden: New and Selected Poems, by Stanley Moss
The Night Path, by Laurie Kutchins
I Can't Remember, by Cynthia Macdonald
Life Among the Trolls, by Maura Stanton
Vain Empires, by William Logan
Trillium, by Richard Foerster

John Taylor / 180
Short Reviews
Thieves of Paradise, by Yusef Komunyakaa
Autobiography of Red, by Anne Carson
I Praise My Destroyer, by Diane Ackerman
Still Life in Milford, by Thomas Lynch
Mysticism for Beginners, by Adam Zagajewski

Leslie Ullman / 308
Short Reviews
Carnival Evening, New and Selected Poems: 1968-1998, by Linda Pastan
The Way It Is: New and Selected Poems, by William Stafford
Without, by Donald Hall
Viper Rum, by Mary Karr

Christian Wiman / 241
An Idea of Order

BOOKS REVIEWED

Diane Ackerman / 180
I Praise My Destroyer
(v. John Taylor)

Anne Carson / 180
Autobiography of Red
(v. John Taylor)

Richard Foerster / 317
Trillium
(v. Michael Scharf)

Robert Gibb / 357
The Origins of Evening
(v. F. D. Reeve)

Donald Hall / 308
Without
(v. Leslie Ullman)

Edward Hirsch / 357
On Love
(v. F. D. Reeve)

Mary Karr / 308
Viper Rum
(v. Leslie Ullman)

Yusef Komunyakaa / 180
Thieves of Paradise
(v. John Taylor)

Larry Kramer / 357
Brilliant Windows
(v. F. D. Reeve)

Laurie Kutchins / 317
The Night Path
(v. Michael Scharf)

Thomas Lynch / 180
Still Life in Milford
(v. John Taylor)

William Logan / 317
Vain Empires
(v. Michael Scharf)

Cynthia Macdonald / 317
I Can't Remember
(v. Michael Scharf)

Stanley Moss / 317
Asleep in the Garden: New and Selected Poems
(v. Michael Scharf)

Naomi Shihab Nye / 357
Fuel
(v. F. D. Reeve)

Linda Pastan / 308
Carnival Evening, New and Selected Poems: 1968-1998
(v. Leslie Ullman)

Len Roberts / 357
The Trouble-Making Finch
(v. F. D. Reeve)

William Stafford / 308
The Way It Is: New and Selected Poems
(v. Leslie Ullman)

Maura Stanton / 317
Life Among the Trolls
(v. Michael Scharf)

Lucien Stryk / 357
And Still Birds Sing: New and Collected Poems
(v. F. D. Reeve)

Adam Zagajewski / 180
Mysticism for Beginners
(v. John Taylor)